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TELEPHONE MAIN 661.

Official paper of Clatsop county and the City of Astoria.

WEATHER.

Western Oregon and Western Washington—Occasional rains.

PRESIDENT, RIGHT OR WRONG!

Right, or wrong, Theodore Roosevelt is President of the United States, and acts in many fashions at all times, but never with a previous knowledge of his wrong estimates.

essential, and must pass to preserve the credit of the municipality; but we protest against this habit of increasing the debt-limit every time the legislature meets as a quick method of meeting obligations that should not have been incurred, and against the method on general principles, as a bad custom and calculated to belittle the communal wisdom, which calls for the administration of public affairs with a careful and timely observance of the limitations of responsibility in money-matters, rather than a resort to the expedient of securing broader legal allowances in public expenditure, to meet the blunders that carry us to, and beyond, the lawful limit.

OUTDOING THE COMBINES.

If one-half the testimony rendered against President Cornelius Shea, of the Teamsters' Union, in the Chicago Criminal court, during the past few days, is true, or one-half true, then the limitations of brutal indulgence in this civilized age are indeed unknown.

EDITORIAL SALAD.

After all, is not the farmer the real advance agent of prosperity?

But that Englishman who is talking about "the joyless American face" never saw us on pay day. You bet!

The stockholders of the Pullman company have dug up \$27,000,000 that should have been in the pockets of its patrons.

Japan feels well qualified to take charge of the department of the American people and bring it up to the oriental standard.

The cost of living, according to figures compiled by one of the big commercial agencies, is higher than it has been for twenty years.

Spain is spending \$72,000,000 on a new navy. The source of the money is not known, as she has not unloaded any islands on us for some time.

One of the easiest things in the world to do is to preach the right kind of philosophy in regard to living right and practice something else.

"Tommy," said little Maebel, "I'm writing to the Lord for a little baby sister. What is the Lord's first name?" "I'm not sure," replied Tommy wisely, "but mamma always calls Him O Lord."

We wonder how many parents realize that their child is a book of blank paper in which shall be recorded the record of their lives? Be careful, therefore, what you have written there for the world will read it! All your secret thoughts the child will try to write.

THOSE AMENDMENTS: NEW WARDS.

The pending amendments to Sections 4, 5, 6, 8, 11, 12, 118, and 127, of the City Charter, which provide for the setting up of a new ward and shifting the boundaries of the old so as to include the additional integrals, are so purely matters of public concern as to need little or no comment.

Instead of burning cotton seed to get rid of it, a practice that was followed in years gone by in some portions of the South, last year 4,500,000 tons of the cotton seed were bought from southern planters, for which the sum of \$75,000,000 was paid.

"The times of love touched from the chord of memory will often unite estranged hearts in private and public station," says the humorous paragrapher of the Baltimore American, who writes such things occasionally, just to show that his pen is not entirely controlled by his family home.

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A Poem for Today

SLAVERY

By William Cowper



H, for a lodge in some vast wilderness, Some boundless contiguity of shade, Where rumor of oppression and deceit, Of unsuccessful or successful war, Might never reach me more! My ear is pained, My soul is sick, with every day's report Of wrong and outrage with which earth is filled. There is no flesh in man's obdurate heart; It does not feel for man; the natural bond Of brotherhood is severed as the flax That falls asunder at the touch of fire. He finds his fellow guilty of a skin Not colored like his own, and having power To enforce the wrong, for such a worthy cause Dooms and devotes him as his lawful prey.

THINK AGAIN

IF YOU THINK YOU CAN'T AFFORD A PIANO JUST NOW, THEN READ THE FOLLOWING AND THINK IT OVER AGAIN.

With any average family, the expenditure of six to ten dollars every month for any considerable period of time, is quite a serious matter, at first thought. But when you consider that half that amount will, nine times out of ten, be expended anyway every month; and nothing of very lasting benefit will be left to show for the money.

Looking at the matter of purchasing a piano in the latter light, it means simply to add each month three or four dollars you wouldn't miss; and be actually buying your piano for but three or four missed dollars per month. (You wouldn't feel it.) And right now you can select from a choice collection of pianos, among which are a few used ones that we will take out for more additions to it.

You will have such famous makes as the Kimball, Haddorf, Clarendon, Bailey, Marshall & Wendell, H. M. Cable and Aeolian pianos to select from.

And on such sacrifices by us on price that we will be "one-fourth" to "one-third" paying for your piano for you out of our discount. Open evenings.

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424 Commercial St. J. M. Ward, Special Salesman. A. R. Cyrus, Local Agent.

ONE CITIZEN'S VIEWS.

Important Statement of the Recent School Fracas.

The following communication was filed in this office last evening by its author and is published at his request and with the knowledge of his very definite interest in the matter as a citizen and as an official:

"Astoria, Ore., Dec. 6, 1906.

To the Editor:

"I notice in Wednesday morning's issue of the 'Astorian' you report the meeting of the school board and announce that Superintendent Clarke of the city schools recommended the suspension of Thomas Andrich and Lawrence Upshur of the Olney school.

"The principle of Olney school is one J. W. Kester, against whom so much objection has been made by the parents of children in the communities where he has taught. To me, as deputy prosecuting attorney, have come numerous persons with complaint against this same Kester, on account of his severeness in punishing the pupils for trifling transgressions of the rules. All persons with complaints I referred to the school board.

"Several days ago I was called to the justice court to prosecute a boy by the name of Thomas Andrich. The complaining witness was one J. W. Kester, alleging that Thomas had assaulted and beat him. The testimony adduced at the trial showed that Thomas Andrich and Lawrence Upshur, while marching up the stairs at the commencement of the afternoon session of school, whispered to one another on the stairs, at which 'gross' violation of a rule of the school, Kester rushed up, grabbed Thomas by the collar and threw him down the stairs, Thomas striking several girls in his fall and piling them all up on the floor at the bottom. But that was not all. While Thomas was down, Kester sprang after him and placed his foot on Thomas's chest, refusing to remove it when requested, upon which Thomas shoved Kester off and got up. Then Kester ordered

Thomas to leave the school, which he did. After school had taken up, Kester collected the books belonging to Thomas and threw them out of the window into the street, where several wagons passed over them before they could be gathered together again. This before all the pupils. An excellent exhibition of an angelic disposition and a temper under complete control.

"Later in the afternoon and after school had closed, Thomas came back for his books, but Kester ordered him out again and enforced the order with a few blows from a rubber hose which he keeps for that purpose. Thomas resented the blows and Kester had him arrested for assault and battery. Now Thomas and Lawrence are recommended for suspension, as an example to the rest of the scholars, with the idea that discipline must be maintained. And Kester, against whom so many complaints have been made, is retained as principal, to whom parents send their children to be taught, and from whom these children are supposed to get the inspiration to attain the highest degree of manhood and womanhood.

"Our public schools are for the education of our boys and girls and not to furnish a livelihood to teachers with ungovernable tempers, nor do parents send their children to school to be unmercifully beaten and insulted. As was remarked in my hearing yesterday, 'If a teacher can not handle the scholars, don't expel the scholars; get a new teacher.' And 'them's my sentiments.'

"President Roosevelt in his message to Congress says that our children must be educated and kept out of factories and work-houses. Laws are passed compelling parents to send their children to school. Parents are anxious to have their children in school. But here is a case where a principal makes an ungentlemanly, unmannerly and unnecessary assault upon a boy for a very slight infraction of a rule, and to uphold the teacher in such conduct and deprive a boy of the opportunity to acquire an education is, in my opinion, a miscarriage of justice and a wrong, nay, a crime committed for the purpose of upholding a teacher in enforcing unnecessary rules in a harsh and unprincipled manner.

"What is to become of these two boys if they are refused admission into the school? The School Board should look to the interest of the children (and I have no doubt but what they will) and not to that of the teacher, because he is a man and should know better, while the boys—are boys.

"CHAS. H. ABERCROMBIE."

KING OF ALL COUGH MEDICINES.

Mr. E. G. Case, a mail carrier of Canton Center, Conn., who has been in the U. S. service for about sixteen years, says: "We have tried many cough medicines for croup, but Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is king of all, and one to be relied upon every time. We also find it the best remedy for coughs and colds, giving certain results, and leaving no bad after effects." For sale by Frank Hart and Leading Druggists.

DONE BY DEED

- Angus McGregor to M. McFarlane, SE 1-4 Section 25, 8, 6... \$ 1
E. C. Belknap et al, trustees, to Carl Johnson, lot 85, Prairie cemetery ... 20
G. L. Colwell and wife to Mrs. M. J. Wright, 12 acres, Callender D. L. C. .... 1
M. J. Wright, et ux, to J. C. Titus, 12 acres in Section 27-7-10 1

Dade's Little Liver Pills thoroughly clean the system, good for lazy livers, makes clear complexions, bright eyes and happy thoughts. Sold by Frank Hart's Drug Store.

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